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WAR NEWS.

A dispatch from Gen. McClellan, dated May 21st, 8 p. m., says: "I have just returned from Bottom Bridge, and have examined the country on the other side, making a reconnoissance on the heels of the enemy, who probably did not like the skirmish of yesterday. The bridge will be repaired by to-morrow morning, and others constructed. All the corps have advanced to-day."

A dispatch from Fortress Monroe says, that near City Point, "on Monday afternoon, a boat went ashore from the Wachusett, with a flag of truce, containing six officers and twelve men. The surgeon of the ship had been sent for from the shore, and the officers and the rest remained to guard the boat. For some reason as yet unexplained, the party in the boat were fired on by some twenty or thirty men, and simultaneously the party on shore were attacked and all taken prisoners."

Dispatches were received in Washington yesterday, from the divisions of the Federal army under command of Gens. McDowell and Banks, reporting all quiet.

Official reports from New Orleans state that several vessels of the Federal fleet have ascended the Mississippi as far as Vicksburg.

The Southern version of the affair at Mc-Dowell, in Highland county, Va., admits the loss of forty killed and two hundred wounded. They repulsed the attack of the Federals under Gen. Schenck, causing heavy loss; one report says, five hundred killed and wounded.

Southern accounts of the engagement at Farmington claim a great success, the Confederate casualties being few, while the Federal loss was very heavy. The Federal troops were driven from their position, and some few prisoners taken.

The advices from Corinth indicate that a general engagement in that locality cannot be far off. On Tuesday the Federal army advanced slowly. Skirmishing was kept up throughout the day with some small losses. The report that several of the Confederate regiments had mutinied is contradicted.

The N. Y. Tribune, of yesterday, has the following dispatch from Washington: "A call is soon to be made upon the States for additional volunteers to the number of 100,000 at least. Careful inquiry has elicited the fact, that our army is smaller than has been represented in even official documents, numbering not 500,000 effective men. This fresh force is to be mainly used as a reserve, to be stationed at convenient points to meet emergencies."

It is understood that Colonel Corcoran has been released, and that he will be sent down the James river under a flag of truce from Richmond, in a short time, in company with a large number of released Federal prisoners. So says a Norfolk letter.

GENERAL NEWS.

From the Department of the Shenandoah we have the statement that the mountains are infested with bands of guerillas; that recently some twenty-nine hundred Confederate cavalry have been disbanded and re-organized for guerilla warfare, and that one of these bands, numbering some forty men, occupied a cave some four miles from Rectortown. Gen. Geary, it is said, undertook to surround the cave aforesaid, and capture its inmates. Arrangements were secretly made for the purpose; but when the project was put into execution, and the cave invested on all sides, the discovery was made that it had been vacated the preceding day.

Some idea of the increased magnitude of the financial transactions of the U. S. government, consequent upon the war, may be gained from the statement that the aggregate of receipts and disbursements over the counter of the treasury, exclusive of the balance on hand at the commencement of the month of April, 1861, was only \$3,007,832 21; while the same items for the corresponding month of 1862 reach the sum of \$331,165,816 81, or more than 110 times as much as for the same month last year.

A dispatch published in a Richmond paper states that Gen. Butler had arrested the consul of the Netherlands, at New Orleans, and also placed a guard over the offices of the French and Spanish consuls, but which was subsequently removed. The French consul had left the city, and gone on board of a French war vessel lying in the river.

The name of the postoffice at Ayer Hill, Fair-fax county, Va., is changed to Vienna, directly on the route from Falls Church to Fairfax Court House. Wm. Hendricks is appointed post-master, vice S. Van Winkle. Wm. Hough, of Waterford, Va., has a contract for conveying the mails six times a week between that place and Hamilton.

A large number of Germans are about to emigrate from Germany to this country, and will settle in Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota.—This emigrating party consists principally of wealthy land owners, and among them are several Barons. About twenty thousand acres of land have already been purchased for them in the three States, and it is expected they will arrive by the middle of July.

The U. S. Treasury Department are just receiving sheets of what are called five-twenty treasury bonds. Those now on hand are of the denomination of one thousand dollars, but there are to be bonds of fifty dollars, one hundred, five hundred and five thousand. They are redeemable at option, after the expiration of five years, but run for twenty.

The New York Journal of Commerce, of yesterday, says of financial matters in that city on Tuesday: "The great plethora of paper money has created a general demand for investment, and various speculations are on foot which would have no hope of success in other conditions of the market."

Gov. Rector, of Arkansas, issued a proclamation on the 5th inst., calling for 4,500 additional volunteers for the defence of the State. The Governor complains that the Confederate government has neglected the defence of the State. He says if the volunteers now called for are not forthcoming by the 25th of May, they will be secured by draft, but will not be transferred to the Confederate government under any circumstances.

The British Journal of Dental Science states that dry collodion, when mixed with gutta percha or india rubber, forms a compound of great hardness and elasticity. It may be used in the arts as a substitute for horn, ivory and such like materials.

All was quiet at Norfolk when the Bay steamer left Fortress Monroe on Tuesday evening.—At that time the Naugatuck was still lying in the Roads, no effort having been made to furnish her with a new gun to replace the one which had burst in firing.

The N. Y. Herald condemns in strong terms the new Homestead law—and says "the public lands should have been kept for the U. S. soldiers, instead of giving them away to adventurers." The Herald is "down upon" Congress "in general and in detail."

The late resolution of the Boston bankers, that the U. S. government is hereafter to furnish the currency of the country, is regarded at the Treasury Department as a correct one. One hundred millions of dollars of demand notes are out, and there is authority for issuing sixty millions more. Congress will doubtless authorize the issue of further amounts, as the public needs may require. It is asked that there shall be notes of a less denomination than five dollars.

An order of Gen. Halleck was issued expelling newspaper correspondents from the camp. A number of them determined to withdraw entirely from the vicinity. A few concluded to remain. A portion of the indignant ones have already arrived at Cairo. Others are on their way.

An effort will be made in the U. S. House of Representatives to adjourn on the 28th inst. until the 2d of June, in order to enable the members to visit their homes, and afford time for putting the hall in summer trim. Those who favor the proposition say such an arrangement will not delay business, as the House is far in advance of the Senate. In this respect the House only contemplates the holiday.

Considerable numbers of troops in the aggregate are leaving Washington, for their homes, now daily, by reason of discharges either for sickness or because their time has expired.

It is stated that the yellow fever has set in at Vera Cruz, and many foreigners have died; among them a number of officers of the French medical staff.

The report that the yellow fever has made its appearance in New Orleans is thought not to be correct.